

FORM PTO-1390 (Modified)
(REV 10-95)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER

TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)
CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371

43890-392

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (IF KNOWN, SEE 37 CFR 1.5)

09 / 463144

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.

PCT/JP99/02665

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE

20 May 1999

PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED

22 May 1998

TITLE OF INVENTION

SENSOR AND METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING RESISTIVE ELEMENT THEREOF

APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US

Shinji UMEDA, et al.

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. ☒ This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2. ☐ This is a **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3. ☒ This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1).
4. ☐ A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.
5. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c) (2))
 - a. ☐ is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☒ has been transmitted by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).
6. ☒ A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).
7. ☒ A copy of the International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210).
8. ☒ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3))
 - a. ☐ are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☐ have been transmitted by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
 - d. ☒ have not been made and will not be made.
9. ☐ A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
10. ☐ An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(4)).
11. ☐ A copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report (PCT/IPEA/409).
12. ☐ A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(5)).

Items 13 to 18 below concern document(s) or information included:

13. ☒ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
14. ☐ An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
15. ☐ A **FIRST** preliminary amendment.
A **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** preliminary amendment.
16. ☐ A substitute specification.
17. ☐ A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.
18. ☐ Certificate of Mailing by Express Mail
19. ☒ Other items or information:

Request for Consideration of Documents Cited in the International Search Report

PCT/IB/304

Formal Drawings (5 sheets)

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (IF KNOWN - SEE 37 CFR 1.5)

09/463144

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.

PCT/JP99/02665

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER

43890-392

20. The following fees are submitted:

BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492 (a) (1) - (5)) :

- ☒ Search Report has been prepared by the EPO or JPO **\$840.00**
- ☐ International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) **\$670.00**
- ☐ No international preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) but international search fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) **\$760.00**
- ☐ Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO **\$970.00**
- ☐ International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(2)-(4) **\$96.00**

ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =**\$840.00**

Surcharge of **\$130.00** for furnishing the oath or declaration later than ☒ 20 ☐ 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492 (e)).

\$130.00

CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE
Total claims	9 - 20 =	0	x \$18.00
Independent claims	2 - 3 =	0	x \$78.00

\$0.00**\$0.00**Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable). ☐**\$0.00****TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =****\$970.00**

Reduction of 1/2 for filing by small entity, if applicable. Verified Small Entity Statement must also be filed (Note 37 CFR 1.9, 1.27, 1.28) (check if applicable). ☐

\$0.00**SUBTOTAL =****\$970.00**

Processing fee of **\$130.00** for furnishing the English translation later than ☐ 20 ☐ 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492 (f)).

\$0.00**TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =****\$970.00**

Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31) (check if applicable). ☐

\$0.00**TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =****\$970.00****Amount to be:****refunded**

\$

charged

\$

☐ A check in the amount of _____ to cover the above fees is enclosed.

☒ Please charge my Deposit Account No. **13-0203** in the amount of **\$970.00** to cover the above fees.
A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. **13-0203** A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.

SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

FOGARTY, Michael E.
McDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY
600 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3096

SIGNATURE

Michael E. FOGARTY

NAME

36,139

REGISTRATION NUMBER

January 20, 2000

DATE

PATENT

• • • • •

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: SENSOR AND METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING RESISTIVE ELEMENT THEREOF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, line 7, after "sensors" insert --,--;

line 16, replace "using" with --means of--;

line 17, replace "taking out" with `--outputting--`;

line 17, after "amplifying" insert --a--;

```
line 21, delete "end";
```

line 23, delete "for resistor 52,";

line 23, after "a resistor" insert --(e.g., resistor 52)--, and

line 24, replace " Ω " with --ohms-- (both instances).

Page 2, line 4, after "65" insert --,--;

line 4, after "mounting" insert --,--;

line 5, replace "works" with --operates--;

line 6, replace "protecting" with --providing protection--;

line 7, replace "to work" with --operating--;

line 19, after "above," insert --the--;

line 21, replace "Use" with -- Accordingly, the use--, and

line 23, after "required" insert --, thereby --.

Page 3, line 8, after "from" insert -- the --.

Page 4, line 3, after "material," insert -- or the like, --;

lines 4, replace " Ω " with -- ohms -- (both instances);

line 19, replace "and" with -- or --, and

line 22, replace "below" with -- less --.

Page 5, line 12, replace "dispersion" with -- variation --, and

line 17, after "forming" insert -- the --.

Page 6, line 6, replace "is" with -- are --.

Page 7, line 7, after "to" insert -- the -- ;

line 8, delete "will be given in the following" insert -- is set forth below-- ;

line 17, after "8" insert --,--;

line 17, after "mounting" insert -- , -- ;

line 20, replace "and" with -- or --, and

line 24 after "with" insert --the--.

line 3, after "electrode" insert --12 --,

Page 8, line 1, delete "so";

line 1, after "arranged" insert -- so --;

line 6, after "structure" insert -- of the device --;

line 6, replace "so made" with -- such --;

line 12, replace "method" with --methods--;

line 14, after "board" insert -- 64 --;

line 17, delete "has been",

line 18, replace "placed" with -- was positioned --;

line 21, replace "taken out" with --output--;

line 22, replace " Ω " with -- ohms -- (both instances);

lines 22-23, replace "When trying to obtain such" with -- Such --;

line 23, replace ",it is easy to realize" with -- can be realized --;

line 24, after "materials" insert --, or the like, --.

Page 9, line 4, delete "They";

line 5, replace "specifically" with --Specifically, Figs. 2A-2C--;

line 5, delete "as";

line 9, replace "such as" with --, for example, --;

line 10, after "sputtering," insert -- or the like, --;

line 10, replace "such as" with --, for example,--;

line 16, after "measuring", insert -- the --;

line 22, replace "is deviating" with --deviates--, and

line 24, replace "used" with --utilized--.

Page 10, line 10, after "large", insert -- (e.g., prior to cutting)--;

line 18, after "cutting" insert --,--, and

line 24, replace "below" with -- less --.

Page 11, line 1, replace "make" with --lower--;

line 2, replace "below" with -- less --;

line 10, after "body" insert -- (-- ;

line 11, after "embodiment" insert --) -- ;

line 13, after "element" insert -- , --;

line 19, after "coating" delete "of", and

line 24, after "on" insert -- the --.

Page 12, line 4, replace "dispersion" with -- variation -- ;

line 6, replace " effect" with --effects--;

line 17, after " into" insert -- the --, and

line 21, replace "much" with -- significantly --.

Page 13, line 12 after "elements", insert -- are --;

line 13, replace "taken" with --absorbed--, and

line 14, after "bodies" insert -- once --.

Page 14, line 10, replace "problem" with --problems--;

line 16, after "sensor" insert -- , --, and

line 25, insert the following paragraph

-- Although certain specific embodiments of the present invention have been disclosed, it is noted that the present invention may be embodied in other specific forms without departing from the spirit or essential characteristics thereof. The present embodiments are therefore to be considered in all respects as illustrative and not restrictive, the scope of the invention being indicated by the appended claims rather than

the foregoing description, and all changes which come within the meaning and range of equivalency of the claims are therefore intended to be embraced therein.--

In the Claims

Please amend claims 1, 3, and 4-6, and add new claims 10-13 as follows:

1. A sensor including:

[(1)] a resistive element having a top surface electrode and a bottom surface electrode;

[(2)] a sensing element for sensing energy from outside and generating an electrical signal;

[(3)] a field effect transistor element in which a gate electrode is formed on [the] a rear surface of [the] a chip containing said field effect transistor element; and

[(4)] a substrate having a first electrode, a second electrode, and a third electrode on the top surface of said substrate;

wherein

the bottom surface electrode of said resistive element is electrically connected with the first electrode of said substrate;

the gate electrode of said field effect transistor element is electrically connected to a portion of the top surface electrode of said resistive element by a conductive material [in such a way that the gate electrode and a portion of the top surface electrode of said resistive element coincides];

one of the electrodes of said sensor element is electrically connected with a portion of the top surface electrode of said resistive element;

a source electrode and a drain electrode of said field effect transistor element are respectively electrically connected with the second electrode and the third electrode on said substrate; and

the other electrode of said sensing element is electrically connected with the first electrode on said substrate.

3. The sensor of claim 1 wherein the top surface electrode and the bottom surface electrode of said resistive element contain at [lease] least one of chromium, tin, and indium.

4. A method of manufacturing a sensor, said sensor including:

[(1)] a resistive element having a top surface electrode and a bottom surface electrode;

[(2)] a sensing element for sensing energy from outside and generating an electrical signal;

[(3)] a field effect transistor element on which a gate electrode is formed on [the] a rear surface of [the] a chip containing said field effect transistor element; and

[(4)] a substrate having a first electrode, a second electrode, and a third electrode on the top surface of said substrate;

said method comprising the steps of:

electrically connecting the bottom surface electrode of said resistive element with the first electrode of said substrate;

electrically connecting the gate electrode of said field effect transistor element to a portion of the top surface electrode of said resistive element by a conductive material [in such a way that the gate electrode and a portion of the top surface electrode of said resistive element coincides];

electrically connecting one of the electrodes of said sensing element with a portion of the top surface electrode of said resistive element;

electrically connecting a source electrode and a drain electrode of said field effect transistor element with the second electrode and the third electrode on said substrate, respectively; and

electrically connecting the other electrode of said sensing element with the first electrode on said substrate.

5. The method of manufacturing a sensor of claim 4 wherein the method of manufacturing said resistive element comprises the steps of:

forming an electrode over the entire top and bottom surfaces of a large-area flat resistor body in advance;

measuring its resistance value; and

cutting said resistor body to predetermined dimensions based on the measured resistance value to obtain a predetermined resistance value.

6. The method of manufacturing a [resistive element] sensor of claim 5 wherein said resistor body is formed by sintering at a temperature at which the water absorption rate becomes 1% or [below] less.

10. (New) The sensor of claim 1 wherein a surface of said gate electrode is disposed above said portion of the top surface electrode.

11. (New) The sensor of claim 10 wherein said surface of said gate electrode disposed above said portion of the top surface electrode is separated from said portion of the top surface electrode only by said conducting material.

12. (New) The method of manufacturing a sensor of claim 4 wherein a surface of said gate electrode is disposed above said portion of the top surface electrode.

13. (New) The method of manufacturing a sensor of claim 12 wherein said surface of said gate electrode disposed above said portion of the top surface electrode is separated from said portion of the top surface electrode only by said conductive material.

In the Abstract

Please delete the abstract in its entirety and replace with the attached abstract.

REMARKS

The foregoing preliminary amendment is submitted to correct grammatical errors within the specification and claims. Furthermore, new claims 10-13 have been added to include limitations that were described in the specification as originally filed, but were not previously claimed.

Applicants submit that no new matter has been added. Entry of this preliminary amendment is respectfully requested.

If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number shown below.


To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY

Date: May 2, 2000

By:



Michael E. Fogarty
Registration No. 36,139

600 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3096
Telephone: 202-756-8000
Facsimile: 202-756-8087

ABSTRACT

--A sensor in which a field effect transistor element having a gate electrode on a rear side thereof that is electrically connected onto a resistive element having a top surface electrode and a bottom surface electrode in such a way that the gate electrode and a portion of the top surface electrode of the resistive element are coupled together via a conductive material, and a grounding electrode on a substrate is electrically connected with the bottom surface electrode of the resistive element.--

WDC99 232572-1 043890.0392



Rec'd Pat 11 JUL 2000

Docket No.: 43890-392

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :
Shinji UMEDA et al. :
Serial No.: 09/463,144 : Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned
Filed: January 20, 2000 : Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
For: SENSOR AND METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING RESISTIVE ELEMENT
THEREOF

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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line 25, insert the following paragraph

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[(2)] a sensing element for sensing energy from outside and generating an electrical signal;

[(3)] a field effect transistor element in which a gate electrode is formed on [the] a rear surface of [the] a chip containing said field effect transistor element; and

[(4)] a substrate having a first electrode, a second electrode, and a third electrode on the top surface of said substrate;

wherein

the bottom surface electrode of said resistive element is electrically connected with the first electrode of said substrate;

the gate electrode of said field effect transistor element is electrically connected to a portion of the top surface electrode of said resistive element by a conductive material [in such a way that the gate electrode and a portion of the top surface electrode of said resistive element coincides];

one of the electrodes of said sensor element is electrically connected with a portion of the top surface electrode of said resistive element;

a source electrode and a drain electrode of said field effect transistor element are respectively electrically connected with the second electrode and the third electrode on said substrate; and

the other electrode of said sensing element is electrically connected with the first electrode on said substrate.

3. The sensor of claim 1 wherein the top surface electrode and the bottom surface electrode of said resistive element contain at [lease] least one of chromium, tin, and indium.

4. A method of manufacturing a sensor, said sensor including:

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said method comprising the steps of:

electrically connecting the bottom surface electrode of said resistive element with the first electrode of said substrate;

electrically connecting the gate electrode of said field effect transistor element to a portion of the top surface electrode of said resistive element by a conductive material [in such a way that the gate electrode and a portion of the top surface electrode of said resistive element coincides];

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forming an electrode over the entire top and bottom surfaces of a large-area flat resistor body in advance;

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10. (New) The sensor of claim 1 wherein a surface of said gate electrode is disposed above said portion of the top surface electrode.

11. (New) The sensor of claim 10 wherein said surface of said gate electrode disposed above said portion of the top surface electrode is separated from said portion of the top surface electrode only by said conducting material.

12. (New) The method of manufacturing a sensor of claim 4 wherein a surface of said gate electrode is disposed above said portion of the top surface electrode.

13. (New) The method of manufacturing a sensor of claim 12 wherein said surface of said gate electrode disposed above said portion of the top surface electrode is separated from said portion of the top surface electrode only by said conductive material.

In the Abstract

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REMARKS

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Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY

Date: July 11, 2000

By:



Michael E. Fogarty
Registration No. 36,139

600 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3096
Telephone: 202-756-8000
Facsimile: 202-756-8087

ABSTRACT

--A sensor in which a field effect transistor element having a gate electrode on a rear side thereof that is electrically connected onto a resistive element having a top surface electrode and a bottom surface electrode in such a way that the gate electrode and a portion of the top surface electrode of the resistive element are coupled together via a conductive material, and a grounding electrode on a substrate is electrically connected with the bottom surface electrode of the resistive element.--

WDC99 232572-1.043890.0392

SENSOR AND METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING RESISTIVE
ELEMENT THEREOF

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

5 The present invention relates to construction and method of manufacturing of electronic components such as infrared sensors for use, for example, in thermometers and human body detecting sensors and piezoelectric devices for use, for example, in acceleration sensors and the like. In particular, it relates to a method of manufacturing sensors which are useful for electronic components in general in which circuit structures required for impedance conversion by using field effect transistor elements and the like have been mounted, and resistive elements for use in these sensors.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

15 There exist many electronic components such as various types of sensors which require impedance conversion by using field effect transistor elements and the like when taking out a signal after amplifying minute signal generated by the sensor. Fig. 5 shows an impedance conversion circuit employing a sensing element 51 and a field effect transistor element 53.

20 In the impedance conversion circuit of Fig. 5, sensing element 51 is connected in series with a resistor 52, and the output end of sensing element 51 is connected to the gate of field effect transistor element 53. In a sensor generating a very small electrical signal, for resistor 52, a resistor with a rather high resistance value ranging from several tens of M Ω to several T Ω is used in many cases
25 depending on the type of sensor.

Fig. 6 shows a view illustrating the mounting on a stem of the circuit of Fig. 5. Four components are to be mounted, namely, a sensing element 61, a resistive element 62, a field effect transistor element 63, and a mounting board 64. In this configuration, the surface of a stem 65 which is the substrate for mounting is covered with a metal, which works as a grounding (GND) electrode 66. This is for the purpose of protecting from external noises. Field effect transistor element 63 is formed on a silicon substrate, and an electrode to work as a gate terminal (G) is formed on the rear surface of the chip whereas a source electrode (S) and a drain electrode (D) are formed on the top surface of the chip.

From the standpoint of circuit configuration, it is impossible to dispose field effect transistor element 63 directly on stem 65. Consequently, it is first connected via a conductive resin 67 on mounting board 64 which is provided with a connecting electrode on the top surface. While bonding of components other than field effect transistor element 63 does not require a conductive resin, the same conductive resin 67 is generally used for simplifying the mounting process. The connection between electrodes of each elements and substrate electrodes is performed by wire bonding using thin metal wires 68 of Al or Au, and then to an external terminal 69.

As has been described above, conventional canned package has as many as four components that need to be mounted, calling for six wires to be wire bonded. Use of many components means not only a high materials cost but also an increase in man-hours for the mounting process resulting in a high cost. Also, as a space is required on the stem, a larger stem is required making the sensor size larger.

The present invention addresses these issues and aims at realizing a lower sensor cost as well as providing a smaller package.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

5 In addressing the above issues, the present invention provides a method of manufacturing a sensor comprising a resistive element having a top surface electrode and a bottom surface electrode, a sensing element generating an electrical signal by sensing energy from outside, a field effect transistor element on the rear side of the chip of which a gate electrode is formed, and a substrate having
10 a first electrode, a second electrode, and a third electrode on its top surface, the method comprising the steps of electrically connecting the bottom surface electrode of the resistive element and first electrode of the substrate, electrically connecting the field effect transistor element onto the resistive element so that the gate electrode and a portion of the top surface electrode of the resistive element meet,
15 electrically connecting one of the electrodes of the sensing element and a portion of the top surface electrode of the resistive element, electrically connecting the source and drain electrodes of the field effect transistor element respectively to the second electrode and the third electrode on the substrate, and electrically connecting the other electrode of the sensing element to the first electrode on the substrate. With
20 this invention, the mounting board of the prior art example becomes unnecessary and the number of wires is reduced from 6 to 4 thereby reducing the cost. Also, as a resistive element is disposed at a position where a mounting board is disposed in the prior art, the space occupied by the resistive element becomes unnecessary thus providing a smaller package.

The present invention also provides a sensor in which the resistive element of the above described sensor is formed with a ceramic material, glass material, or ferrite material, and in which a resistor body having a relatively high resistance value in the range from several tens of $M\Omega$ to several $T\Omega$ can be formed with ease.

The present invention also provides a method of manufacturing a resistive element having a predetermined resistance value by forming in advance an electrode over the entire top and bottom surfaces of a flat resistor body with a large area and cutting to arbitrary dimensions after measuring the resistance value.

10 According to this invention, as the resistance value is inversely proportional to the area of the electrode, it is possible to change the resistance value by the size to be cut based on the resistance value measured in advance when the area is large, thereby allowing formation of a resistive element having a precise resistance value which is intended to be obtained after cutting. Also, by changing the area to be
15 cut, it is possible to obtain resistive elements having many types of resistance values from the same resistor body. Furthermore, it is a method of manufacturing with superiority in mass producibility as it is possible to configure a continuous mounting process from cutting to mounting by employing a cutting method such as dicing and the like. The present invention also provides a method of
20 manufacturing resistive elements in which the resistor body to be used for the resistive elements is formed at a sintering temperature such that the rate of water absorption becomes 1% or below. According to this invention, even when a process in which cutting of the resistor body to be used for resistive elements is diced while water is being sprayed, no change in the resistance value due to water
25 absorption or moisture absorption by the resistor body occurs. It is also possible

to realize a high reliability resistive elements as no change in the resistance value is caused even under a high-temperature, high-humidity environment.

Furthermore, in the present invention, the method of manufacturing the above described sensor is one in which the resistive element is simply a resistive element of which the electrodes are formed on the top and bottom surfaces of the resistor body, a first electrode on a substrate is electrically connected with the bottom surface electrode of the resistive element via a conductive material, and a predetermined resistance value is obtained by controlling the amount of the conductive material so as to control the amount of resin which rises on the sides of the resistor body. With this invention, it is possible to correct the resistance value by controlling only the amount of resin to be coated even when there is some dispersion in the obtained resistance values among production lots.

The present invention also provides a method of manufacturing a resistive element having a predetermined resistance value in which the resistance value is controlled by heat treating a resistive element of the above described sensor in a vacuum, in a reducing gas atmosphere, or in an inactive gas atmosphere after forming top surface and bottom surface electrodes. According to the present invention, as it is possible to change the resistance value of the resistive elements fabricated by the same method of manufacturing over a wide range, it makes it possible to configure resistor bodies having many types of resistance values from a resistor element fabricated by the same method of manufacturing. It is also possible to change the resistance value of a resistor body after mounting.

In the method of manufacturing the above resistive element, the present invention provides a method of manufacturing in which resistive elements are fabricated by heat treatment in the atmosphere or in an oxygen atmosphere after

heat treatment in a vacuum, reducing gas atmosphere, or inactive gas atmosphere. According to this invention, it is possible to fabricate stable and high-reliability resistive elements of which the resistance value does not change during mounting of the above-configured resistive elements or during heat treatment after mounting.

5 Furthermore, in the present invention, the electrodes to be formed on the top and bottom surfaces of a resistive element is made of a metal containing either of chromium, tin, or indium. According to this invention, even when a resistor body formed with a ceramic material, glass material, or ferrite material has a resistance value close to that of an insulator, it is possible to further widen the
10 variable range of the resistance value in the above configured resistive elements by employing a metal containing either of chromium, tin, or indium as the electrode of the resistor body.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

15 Fig. 1 is a cross-sectional view of a sensor in a first exemplary embodiment of the present invention.

Figs. 2A to 2C are views illustrating the method of manufacturing a resistive element in a second exemplary embodiment of the present invention.

20 Fig. 3 is a graphical representation of the dependence of the resistance value on the amount of a conductive resin in a third exemplary embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 4 is a graphical representation of heat treatment temperature dependence of the resistance value in a fourth exemplary embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 5 is a circuit diagram of an impedance conversion circuit of a sensor.

Fig. 6 is a cross-sectional view of a prior art sensor.

5 DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

First exemplary embodiment

Referring to drawings, a description of a first exemplary embodiment of the present invention will be given in the following. Fig. 1 shows a cross-sectional view of a sensor of the present embodiment. In Fig. 1, a sensing element 1 is a sensing element which generates an electrical signal by sensing external energy or stimulus such as from an infrared sensor, pressure sensor, or shock sensor. Sensing element 1 usually has multiple output terminals. A resistive element 2 has a top surface electrode 4 and a bottom surface electrode 5. In a sensor generating a very small electrical signal, a relatively high resistance value is required. A gate electrode 6 is formed on the rear surface of a field effect transistor element 3, and a source electrode and a drain electrode are formed on the top surface. The surface of a stem 8 which is a substrate for mounting is covered with a metal that forms a grounding (GND) electrode as is the case with a stem 65 of the prior art in Fig. 6. Sensing element 1 is secured onto stem 8 with a die bonding resin 11 and the like. Generally, die bonding resin 11 contains an insulating or a conductive filler.

Subsequently, resistive element 2 is secured on top of the grounding electrode 12 on stem 8 with an conductive material 9 so as to connect its bottom surface electrode 5 of resistive element 2 with grounding electrode, followed by securing field effect transistor element 3 on top of resistive element 2 with a

conductive material 10. During this process, the configuration is so arranged that a portion of top surface electrode 4 of resistive element 2 and gate electrode 6 become mutually electrically conducting. Conductive materials 9 and 10 are, for example, a die bonding resin containing a conductive filler. Die bonding resin 11 and conductive materials 9 and 10 can be a common material.

Next, the structure is so made that one of the electrodes of sensing element 1 and a portion of top surface electrode 4 of resistive element 2 are electrically connected, and the other electrode of sensing element 1 and grounding electrode 12 are electrically connected. The source electrode and drain electrode on field effect transistor element 3 are respectively connected to a second electrode 7 and a third electrode 13 on stem 8. Generally, these connections are performed by employing wire bonding method in which electrodes are connected by a fine metal wire 14 similarly to the prior art example illustrated in Fig. 6.

According to this sensor configuration, the mounting board on which mounting is performed in the prior art becomes unnecessary and the number of wires is reduced from 6 to 4, thus resulting in a lower cost. Furthermore, as the resistive element is positioned in the place where the mounting board has been placed in the prior art, the space occupied by the resistive element becomes unnecessary, thus a smaller package can be realized.

In a sensor in which a very small amount of electrical signal is to be taken out, the resistance of resistive element 2 has to be an extremely high value in the range from several hundreds of $M\Omega$ to several $T\Omega$. When trying to obtain such high resistance values, it is easy to realize by using sintered bodies such as ceramic materials, glass materials, and ferrite materials which have higher resistance values than that of usual carbon based resistor bodies.

Second exemplary embodiment

Figs. 2A to 2C illustrate the method of manufacturing resistive elements in a second exemplary embodiment of the present invention. They specifically illustrate the method of manufacturing the resistive element as described in the first exemplary embodiment. Fig. 2A shows the process of forming electrodes 22 on the top and bottom surfaces of a flat resistor body 21. Several methods are available for the formation of the electrodes, for example, a method of forming relatively thin films by such as vacuum deposition and sputtering, and a method of forming relatively thick films by such as plating. Also, a method in which the electrodes are formed by printing prior to firing a resistor body has the advantage of being superior in mass producibility. As it is necessary to make electrical connections in the subsequent process with a conductive resin or by wire bonding method, it is effective to form Au, which does not form an oxide film, over the outermost surface of the metal to be used as the electrode.

Fig. 2B shows the process of measuring resistance value by making a contact electrode 23 come in contact with the top surface and the bottom surface electrodes. Since the resistance value is inversely proportional to the electrode area, it is possible to precisely predict in advance the resistance value of a resistive element after it has been cut by measuring the resistance value of the electrode with a large area before cutting. In other words, even when the resistance value of a resistor body is deviating to a certain extent, it is possible to fabricate a resistive element having a precise resistance value by adjusting the size to be cut.

For cutting, a dicing method as illustrated in Fig. 2C is often used.

First, a sticky dicing tape 24 is laminated on a dicing ring 25, and a resistor body to

be diced is made to stick on top of the tape. Cutting is performed by subsequently moving a dicing blade 26 which is revolving at a high speed on the resistor body.

During this process, water is sprayed to dicing blade 26 in order to reduce the friction between the dicing blade and the resistor body. Also, the system is so

5 configured that the dicing ring itself can be installed on a mounting machine after cutting, thus allowing arrangement of the resistor up to the mounting process.

According to this method of manufacturing resistive elements, it is possible to predict the relationship between the size to be cut and the resistance value of a resistive element after being cut by making a measurement in advance of
10 the resistance value of the resistor body when the area is large. Consequently, a resistive element having a precise resistance value intended to be obtained after cutting can be formed. Also, by changing the area to be cut, resistive elements having many kinds of resistance values can be formed from the same resistor body. Furthermore, by employing a cutting method such as dicing and the like, a
15 continuous mounting process from cutting through mounting can be configured, thus providing a method of manufacturing resistive elements with superior reproducibility.

The use of dicing for cutting means that the resistive elements undergo a process of being immersed in water. In the event the resistive elements
20 are porous and water absorbing or moisture absorbing, once water is absorbed, the resistance value becomes extremely low thus not indicating normal resistance values. For example, when the water absorption rate is 4%, the resistance value after water absorption decreases by about an order of magnitude. On the contrary, when the water absorption rate is 1% or below, there is little change in the
25 resistance value. Therefore, the sintering temperature of the resistive elements is

set at a relatively high temperature in order to make the water absorption rate to 1% or below. This is also effective in keeping the resistance value stable under a high humidity environment.

Third exemplary embodiment

Referring now to Fig. 3, the method of manufacturing resistive elements in a third exemplary embodiment of the present invention will be given. Fig. 3 shows the dependence of the resistance value on the amount of the conductive resin when a resistive element on which only electrodes have been formed on the top and bottom surfaces of the resistor body such as fabricated by the process described in the second exemplary embodiment is secured on a substrate with a conductive resin. As shown in Fig. 3, the amount of resin which rises on the sides of the resistive element increases with the increasing amount of the conductive resin. And, as the amount of the conductive resin that rises on the sides increases, the resistance value of the resistive element decreases. This is because the portion of the conductive resin which attaches to the sides functions like an electrode thus causing a state as if the electrode area has been enlarged or the distance between the top and bottom electrodes has been diminished thereby reducing the resistance. For coating of the resin, a dispenser or a transfer tool is used as the coating apparatus, a certain amount of resin can be coated with a relatively good controllability.

In the present invention, in mounting a resistive element on a substrate, a predetermined resistance value is obtained by making the structure of the resistive element a simple one obtained by forming electrodes on top surface and bottom surface on a resistor body and controlling the amount of resin which

5 rises on the sides of the resistive element through control of the amount of the
conductive resin to be coated. According to this embodiment, it is possible to
correct the resistance value by controlling only the amount of the resin to be coated
even when there exists some dispersion in resistance values among the production
lots.

Moreover, similar effect can be obtained when the conductive resin is
replaced with a low-melting point metal such as solder.

Fourth exemplary embodiment

10 Referring to Fig. 4, the method of manufacturing resistive elements to
be used in a sensor in a fourth exemplary embodiment of the present invention will
be described. Fig. 4 is a representation of the effect of heat treatment when
resistive elements are configured with a resistor body composed of a ceramic
material, glass material, or ferrite material which is composed of metal oxides. As
15 shown in Fig. 4, heat treatment temperature dependence of the resistance value is
high when heat treatment is performed in a vacuum containing no oxygen. This is
attributable to a decrease in the resistance value due to diffusion into film of the
metal contained in the electrode and to a change in the composition of the resistor
body due to separation of oxygen contained in the resistor body as a result of heat
20 treatment. On the other hand, when heat treatment is performed in the atmosphere,
the resistance value does not change much as shown in Fig. 4. This is because
diffusion of metal is deterred due to attraction by oxygen in the atmosphere or
oxygen in the resistor body is difficult to be separated. Consequently, in the
present invention, heat treatment is performed in a vacuum, reducing gas

atmosphere, or inactive gas atmosphere in order to control the resistance value and to form resistive elements having a predetermined resistance value.

According to this invention, as it is possible to change the resistance value of resistive elements fabricated by the same method of manufacturing over a wide range, it is possible to fabricate resistor elements having many kinds of resistance values even with resistive elements fabricated by the same method of manufacturing and having the same size. As a result, even when the space for mounting a resistive element is limited, a resistive element having a predetermined resistance value and an arbitrary size can be fabricated. Furthermore, the resistance value of the resistor elements can be changed after being mounted.

However, when the resistance value is made extremely small, the resistance value sometimes gradually increases when the resistor elements left standing in the atmosphere. This is because oxygen in the atmosphere is taken into the resistor bodies again. Although the change is not too large, fluctuation of the resistance value is not desirable. Therefore, after decreasing the resistance value once by performing heat treatment in a vacuum, in a reducing gas atmosphere, or in inactive gas atmosphere, heat treatment is performed in the atmosphere or in an oxygen atmosphere. The temperature of the heat treatment is preferably the temperature to be experienced in the subsequent process or a temperature higher than the highest operating temperature of the sensor. Caution is to be taken especially when mounting the sensor because it is subjected to a relatively high temperature. With this method, stable and high reliability resistive elements can be configured. This method has also an added effect of minimizing resistance value dispersion enlarged by the decrease in the resistance value.

Use of a metal containing either of chromium, tin, or indium as the electrode material to be used in the resistive elements will provide a larger amount of resistance change due to heat treatment in a vacuum. This is because these metals are easy to diffuse into oxides. Especially when configuring an electrode by laminating plural metals, better effect of diffusion can be obtained by forming film of these metals closest to the resistor body. As tin and indium in particular exhibit electrical conductivity even when oxidized, the resistance change becomes greater. Resistance value of a ceramic material, glass material, or ferrite material, all being oxides, drastically decreases as the temperature rises. When the degree of resistance value decrease with temperature is large, it may cause some problem depending on the application and operating temperature range of the sensor. However, by diffusing these metals in the resistor body, the degree of resistance value decrease with temperature can be lessened.

According to the methods described in the above second to fourth embodiments, it is possible to precisely set the resistance value of a resistive element to be used in a sensor thus enhancing the accuracy of the sensor and at the same time reducing the cost by raising the yield of the resistive element.

As has been set forth above, the present invention allows cost reduction as the number of wires can be reduced from 6 to 4 when compared with the prior art sensor configuration. Also, as a resistive element is disposed at a position where a mounting board is placed in the prior art, the space occupied by the resistive element becomes free thereby providing an advantageous effect of obtaining a smaller package. Furthermore, a sensor with a higher accuracy can be obtained as the resistance value of the resistive element can be precisely controlled.

What is claimed is:

1. A sensor including:
 - (1) a resistive element having a top surface electrode and a bottom surface electrode;
 - (2) a sensing element for sensing energy from outside and generating an electrical signal;
 - (3) a field effect transistor element in which a gate electrode is formed on the rear surface of the chip; and
 - (4) a substrate having a first electrode, a second electrode, and a third electrode on the top surface of said substrate;
- wherein
- the bottom surface electrode of said resistive element is electrically connected with the first electrode of said substrate;
- the gate electrode of said field effect transistor element is electrically connected to a portion of the top surface electrode of said resistive element in such a way that the gate electrode and a portion of the top surface electrode of said resistive element coincides;
- one of the electrodes of said sensor element is electrically connected with a portion of the top surface electrode of said resistive element;
- a source electrode and a drain electrode of said field effect transistor element are respectively electrically connected with the second electrode and the third electrode on said substrate; and
- the other electrode of said sensing element is electrically connected with the first electrode on said substrate.

1 2. The sensor of claim 1 wherein said resistive element is formed with
2 one of a ceramic material, glass material, and ferrite material.

1 3. The sensor of claim 1 wherein the top surface electrode and the
2 bottom surface electrode of said resistive element contain at lease one of chromium,
3 tin, and indium.

1 4. A method of manufacturing a sensor, said sensor including:

2 (1) a resistive element having a top surface electrode and a bottom
3 surface electrode;

4 (2) a sensing element for sensing energy from outside and generating
5 an electrical signal;

6 (3) a field effect transistor element on which a gate electrode is
7 formed on the rear surface of the chip; and

8 (4) a substrate having a first electrode, a second electrode, and a third
9 electrode on the top surface of said substrate;

10 said method comprising the steps of:

11 electrically connecting the bottom surface electrode of said resistive
12 element with the first electrode of said substrate;

13 electrically connecting the gate electrode of said field effect transistor
14 element to a portion of the top surface electrode of said resistive element in such a
15 way that the gate electrode and a portion of the top surface electrode of said
16 resistive element coincides;

17 electrically connecting one of the electrodes of said sensing element
18 with a portion of the top surface electrode of said resistive element;
19 electrically connecting a source electrode and a drain electrode of said
20 field effect transistor element with the second electrode and the third electrode on
21 said substrate, respectively; and
22 electrically connecting the other electrode of said sensing element
23 with the first electrode on said substrate.

1 5. The method of manufacturing a sensor of claim 4 wherein the
2 method of manufacturing said resistive element comprises the steps of:
3 forming an electrode over the entire top and bottom surfaces of a
4 large-area flat resistor body in advance;
5 measuring its resistance value; and
6 cutting to predetermined dimensions based on the measured
7 resistance value to obtain a predetermined resistance value.

1 6. The method of manufacturing a resistive element of claim 5
2 wherein said resistor body is formed by sintering at a temperature at which the
3 water absorption rate becomes 1% or below.

1 7. The method of manufacturing a sensor of claim 4 wherein the step
2 of electrically connecting the bottom surface electrode of said resistive element
3 with the first electrode of said substrate further comprising:
4 obtaining a predetermined resistance value by electrically connecting
5 the bottom surface electrode of said resistive element with the first electrode of said

6 substrate by using a conductive material and controlling the amount of the
7 conductive material, thereby controlling the amount of resin that rises on the sides
8 of said resistive element.

1 8. The method of manufacturing a sensor of claim 4, further
2 comprising the step of:

3 obtaining a predetermined resistance value by controlling the
4 resistance value and forming a resistive element having a predetermined value by
5 performing at least one of heat treatment in a vacuum, heat treatment in a reducing
6 gas atmosphere, and heat treatment in an inactive gas atmosphere, after forming the
7 top surface electrode and the bottom surface electrode of said resistive element.

1 9. The method of manufacturing a sensor of claim 8, further
2 comprising the step of:

3 performing heat treatment in the atmosphere or in an oxygen
4 atmosphere after performing heat treatment in one of a vacuum, a reducing gas
5 atmosphere, and an inactive gas atmosphere.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A sensor in which a field effect transistor element 3 having a gate electrode 6 on its rear side is electrically connected onto a resistive element 2 having a top surface electrode and a bottom surface electrode in such a way that the gate electrode 6 and a portion of the top surface electrode of the resistive element 2 coincides, and a grounding electrode 12 on a substrate is electrically connected with the bottom surface electrode of the resistive element 2 so that they coincides.

20682J1E1A_literal 1999/11/24

Reference Numerals

1. Sensing element
2. Resistive element
3. Field effect transistor element
4. Top surface electrode of resistor body
5. Bottom surface electrode of resistor body
6. Gate electrode
7. Second electrode
8. Stem
9. Conductive material
10. Conductive material
11. Die bonding resin
12. Grounding electrode
13. Third Electrode
14. Thin metal wire
21. Resistor body
22. Electrode
23. Contact electrode
24. Dicing tape
25. Dicing ring
26. Dicing blade

[illegible]

FIG. 2A

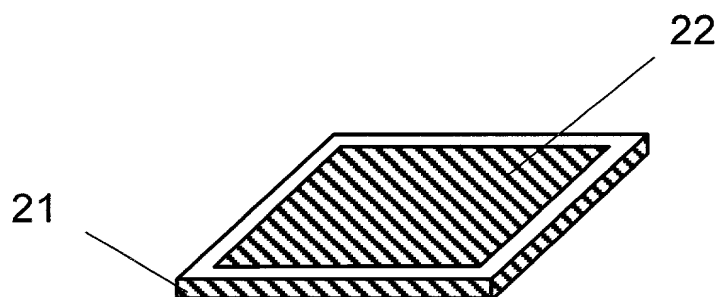


FIG. 2B

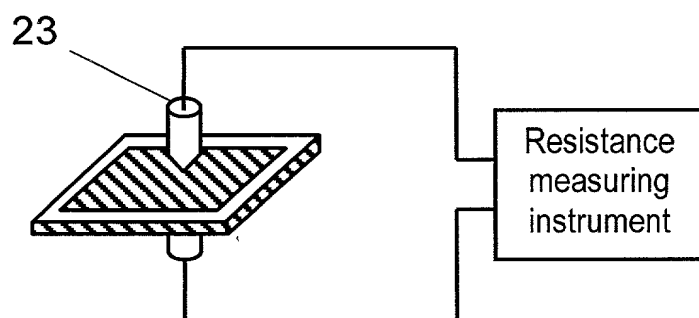


FIG. 2C

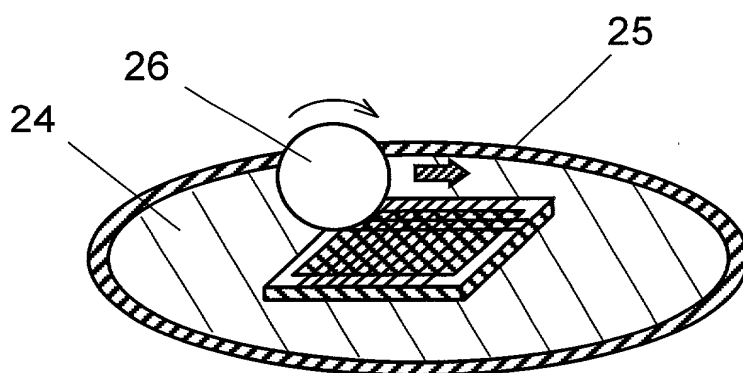


FIG. 3

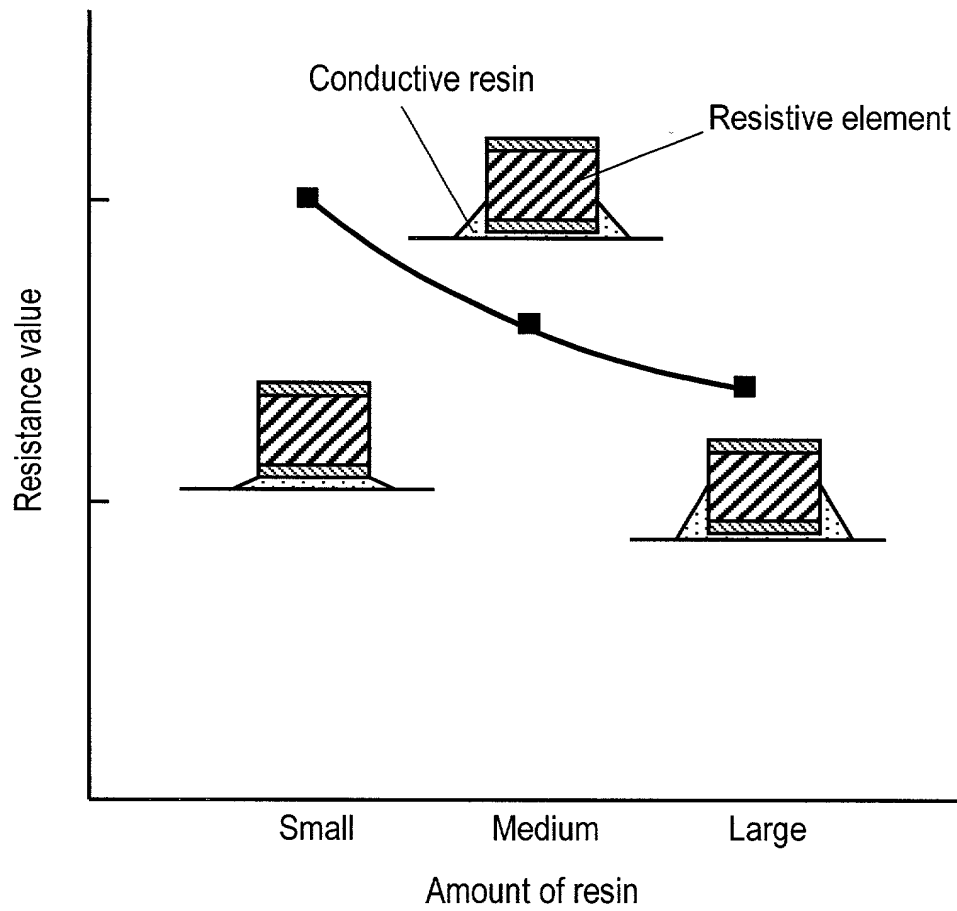


FIG. 4

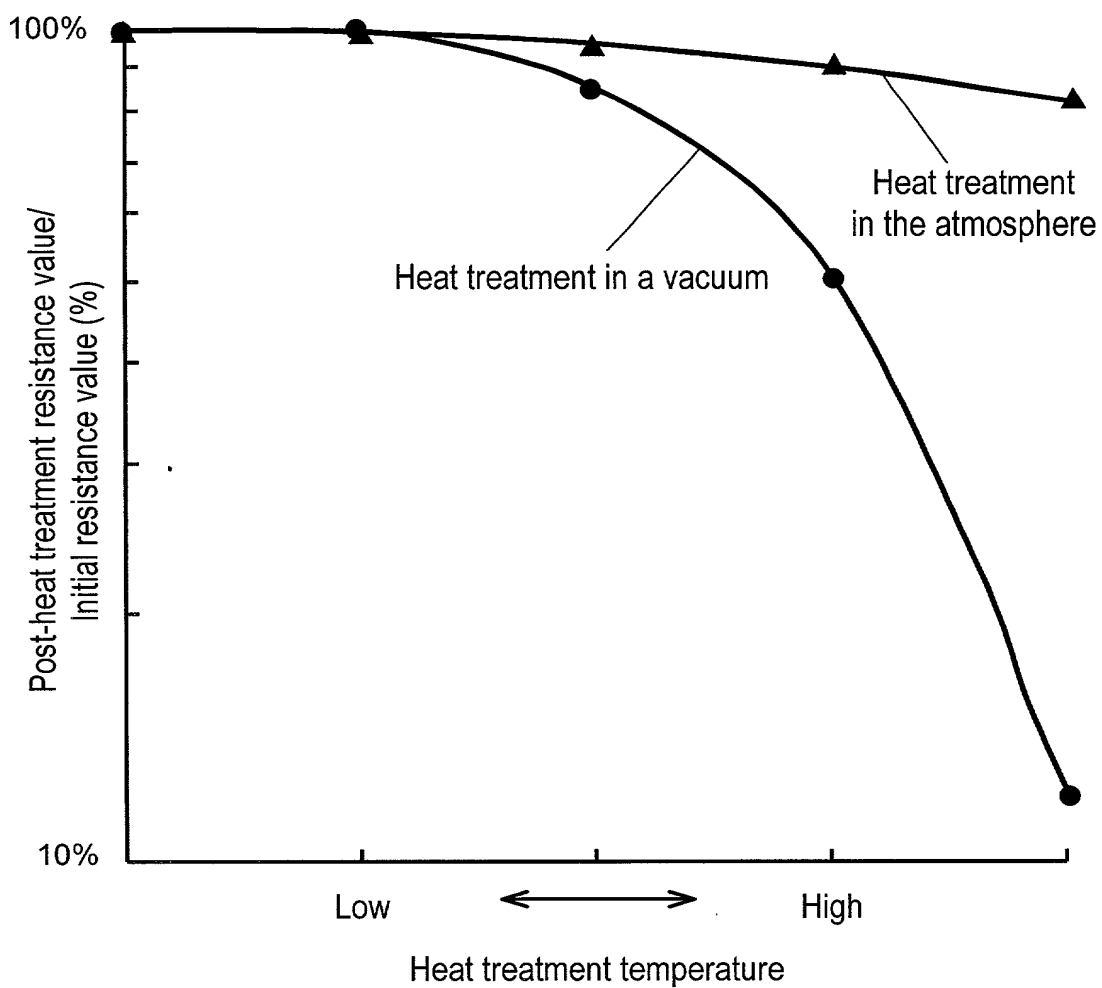


FIG. 5

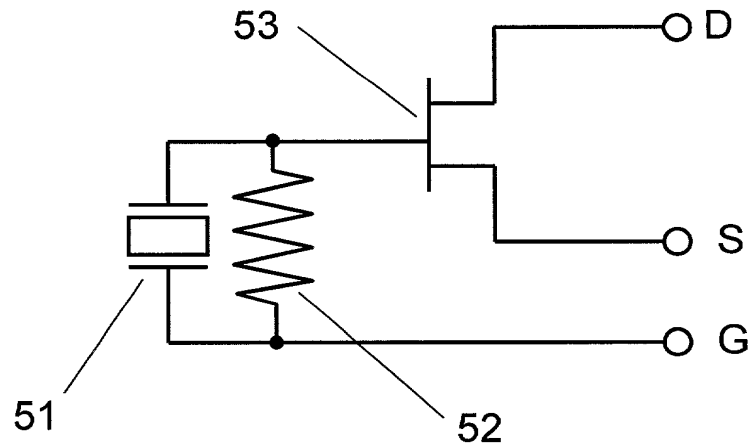
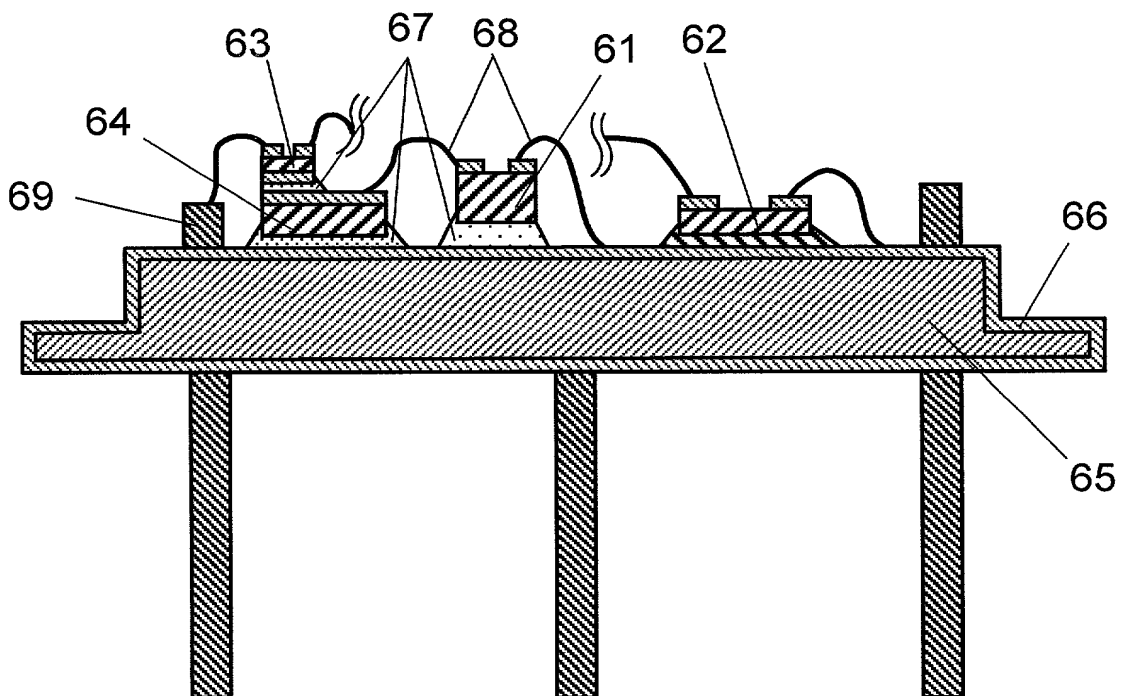


FIG. 6 PRIOR ART



P20682

Attorney Docket No. 43890-392

COMBINED DECLARATION/POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor(s), I(we) hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **SENSOR AND METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING RESISTIVE ELEMENT THEREOF**, the specification of which

(check one) ☐ is attached hereto.

☒ was filed on 20 January 2000 as
United States Application No. 09/463,144

☒ PCT International Patent Application Number PCT/JP99/02665
filed 20 May 1999
and was amended on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)			Priority Claimed
<u>10-140892</u>	<u>Japan</u>	<u>22 May 1998</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

_____ (Appln. Serial No.)	_____ (Filing Date)	(Status-patented, pending, abandoned)
_____ (Appln. Serial No.)	_____ (Filing Date)	(Status-patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby appoint as my attorneys, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute the patent application identified above and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Stephen A. Becker, Reg. No. 26,527; John G. Bisbikis, Reg. No. 37,095; Daniel Bucca, Reg. No. 42,368; Kenneth L. Cage, Reg. No. 26,151; Carina M. Tan, Reg. No. P-45,769; Stephen C. Carlson, Reg. No. 39,929; Jennifer Chen, Reg. No. 42,404; Bernard P. Codd, Reg. No. P-46,429; Thomas A. Corrado, Reg. No. 42,439; Lawrence T. Cullen, Reg. No. 44,489; Paul Devinsky, Reg. No. 28,553; Luan Do, Reg. No. 38,434; Margaret M. Duncan, Reg. No. 30,879; Brian E. Ferguson, Reg. No. 36,801; Michael E. Fogarty, Reg. No. 36,139; John R. Fuisz, Reg. No. 37,327; Willem F. Gadiano, Reg. No. 37,136; Keith E. George, Reg. No. 34,111; Matthew V. Grumblin, Reg. No. 44,427; John A. Hankins, Reg. No. 32,029; Joseph Hyosuk Kim, Reg. No. 41,425; Eric J. Kraus, Reg. No. 36,190; Jack Q. Lever, Reg. No. 28,149; Raphael V. Lupo, Reg. No. 28,363; Christine F. Martin, Reg. No. 39,762; Michael A. Messina, Reg. No. 33,424; Eugene J. Molinelli, Reg. No. 42,901; Dawn L. Palmer, Reg. No. 41,238; Joseph H. Paquin, Jr., Reg. No. 31,647; Scott D. Paul, Reg. No. 42,984; William D. Pegg, Reg. No. 42,988; Robert L. Price, Reg. No. 22,685; Thomas D. Robbins, Reg. No. 43,669; Gene Z. Robinson, Reg. No. 33,351; Joy Ann G. Serauskas, Reg. No. 27,952; Daniel H. Sherr, Reg. No. P-46,425; David A. Spenard, Reg. No. 37,449; Arthur J. Steiner, Reg. No. 26,106; David L. Stewart, Reg. No. 37,578; Wesley Strickland, Reg. No. 44,363; Michael D. Switzer, Reg. No. 39,552; Leonid D. Thenor, Reg. No. 39,397; Keith J. Townsend, Reg. No. 40,358; Daniel S. Trainor, Reg. No. 43,959; Cameron K. Weiffenbach, Reg. No. 44,488; Aaron Weisstuch, Reg. No. 41,557; Edward J. Wise, Reg. No. 34,523; Alexander V. Yampolsky, Reg. No. 36,324; and Robert W. Zelnick, Reg. No. 36,976

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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Attorney Docket No. 43890-392

COMBINED DECLARATION/POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor(s), I(we) hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **SENSOR AND METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING RESISTIVE ELEMENT THEREOF**, the specification of which

(check one) is attached hereto.

 X was filed on 20 January 2000 as
United States Application No. 09/463,144

 X PCT International Patent Application Number PCT/JP99/02665
filed 20 May 1999
and was amended on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)

Priority Claimed

10-140892 Japan 22 May 1998
(Number) (Country) (Day/Month/Year Filed)

 X Yes No

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

(Appln. Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status-patented, pending, abandoned)

(Appln. Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status-patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby appoint as my attorneys, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute the patent application identified above and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Stephen A. Becker, Reg. No. 26,527; John G. Bisbikis, Reg. No. 37,095; Daniel Bucca, Reg. No. 42,368; Kenneth L. Cage, Reg. No. 26,151; Carina M. Tan, Reg. No. P-45,769; Stephen C. Carlson, Reg. No. 39,929; Jennifer Chen, Reg. No. 42,404; Bernard P. Codd, Reg. No. P-46,429; Thomas A. Corrado, Reg. No. 42,439; Lawrence T. Cullen, Reg. No. 44,489; Paul Devinsky, Reg. No. 28,553; Luan Do, Reg. No. 38,434; Margaret M. Duncan, Reg. No. 30,879; Brian E. Ferguson, Reg. No. 36,801; Michael E. Fogarty, Reg. No. 36,139; John R. Fuisz, Reg. No. 37,327; Willem F. Gadiano, Reg. No. 37,136; Keith E. George, Reg. No. 34,111; Matthew V. Grumblin, Reg. No. 44,427; John A. Hankins, Reg. No. 32,029; Joseph Hyosuk Kim, Reg. No. 41,425; Eric J. Kraus, Reg. No. 36,190; Jack Q. Lever, Reg. No. 28,149; Raphael V. Lupo, Reg. No. 28,363; Christine F. Martin, Reg. No. 39,762; Michael A. Messina, Reg. No. 33,424; Eugene J. Molinelli, Reg. No. 42,901; Dawn L. Palmer, Reg. No. 41,238; Joseph H. Paquin, Jr., Reg. No. 31,647; Scott D. Paul, Reg. No. 42,984; William D. Pegg, Reg. No. 42,988; Robert L. Price, Reg. No. 22,685; Thomas D. Robbins, Reg. No. 43,669; Gene Z. Robinson, Reg. No. 33,351; Joy Ann G. Serauskas, Reg. No. 27,952; Daniel H. Sherr, Reg. No. P-46,425; David A. Spenard, Reg. No. 37,449; Arthur J. Steiner, Reg. No. 26,106; David L. Stewart, Reg. No. 37,578; Wesley Strickland, Reg. No. 44,363; Michael D. Switzer, Reg. No. 39,552; Leonid D. Thenor, Reg. No. 39,397; Keith J. Townsend, Reg. No. 40,358; Daniel S. Trainor, Reg. No. 43,959; Cameron K. Weiffenbach, Reg. No. 44,488; Aaron Weisstuch, Reg. No. 41,557; Edward J. Wise, Reg. No. 34,523; Alexander V. Yampolsky, Reg. No. 36,324; and Robert W. Zelnick, Reg. No. 36,976

49

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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